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United States Department of Agriculture

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT

APRIL, 1924

THE ADULTERATION AND MISBRANDING OF THE SEEDS OF ORCHARD GRASS AND HAIRY VETCH

During the calendar year 1923, seeds of orchard grass and hairy vetch were procured in the open market in accordance with the following paragraph in the act of Congress making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture:

Where such samples [seeds of grasses, clover, or alfalfa, and lawn-grass seeds secured in the open market] are found to be adulterated or misbranded, the results of the tests shall be published, together with the names of the persons by whom the seeds were offered for sale.

In carrying out the provisions of this act, 490 mail samples and 115 purchased lots of orchard-grass seed and 139 mail samples and 98 purchased lots of hairy-vetch seed were obtained.

These were examined in the Seed-Testing Laboratory of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and publication is here made of the results of the analyses of the samples found to be adulterated or misbranded, together with the names of the seedsmen by whom they were sold or offered for sale. (See Tables 1 and 2.)

TABLE 1.—Results of tests of samples of seed obtained in the open market as orchard-grass seed and found to be adulterated or misbranded

Seed offered for sale or sold as orchard-grass seed by—		Seed obtained by—	Seeds and inert matter found upon analysis of samples			
Name of dealer	Address of dealer		Orchard-grass seed	Rye-grass, meadow fescue, or both	Other seeds	Dirt and chaff
Agricultural Seed Co...	Biddle and Collins Streets, St. Louis, Mo.	Mail (sample)...	Per cent 64.29	Per cent 23.62	Per cent 0.83	11.26
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	^a 68.13	6.37	1.73	23.77
Balcom Seed Co., The.	Greely, Colo.....	Mail (sample)...	.23	91.27	^b 5.25	3.25
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	0	92.39	^c 5.09	2.52
Barteldes Seed Co., The	Lawrence, Kans.....	Mail (sample)...	59.76	0	^d 18.38	21.86
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	65.47	0	^e 21.06	13.47
Do.....	do.....	Mail (sample)...	61.46	0	^f 21.79	16.75
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	59.64	0	^g 17.81	22.55
Buchanan, R. B.....	18 South Front Street, Memphis, Tenn.	Mail (sample)...	74.77	11.69	1.99	11.55
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	71.89	15.56	2.51	10.04
Hightower Seed Co.....	Hattiesburg, Miss.....	do.....	65.78	20.50	3.33	10.39
Iowa Seed Co.....	209-211 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa.	do.....	45.19	32.76	^h 10.07	11.98
Wilson Seed Co., Inc., The J. J.	79 Orange Street, Newark, N. J.	Mail (sample)...	75.52	17.40	.34	6.74
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	53.03	30.60	ⁱ 6.55	9.82
Wilson Seed & Floral Co., The.	23 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio.	Mail (sample)...	0	98.60	1.17	.23
Do.....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)...	.23	98.35	.15	1.27

^a Labeled pure seed, 89 per cent.

^b Smooth chess, 4.09 per cent.

^c Smooth chess, 4.26 per cent.

^d Smooth chess, 15.40 per cent.

^e Smooth chess, 17.77 per cent.

^f Smooth chess, 16.75 per cent.

^g Smooth chess, 13.86 per cent.

^h Smooth chess, 9.26 per cent.

ⁱ Smooth chess, 5.85 per cent.

TABLE 2.—*Results of tests of samples of seed obtained in the open market as hairy-vetch seed and found to be adulterated or misbranded*

Seed offered for sale or sold as hairy-vetch seed by—		Seed obtained by—	Seeds and inert matter found upon analysis of samples			
Name of dealer	Address of dealer		Hairy-vetch seed	Seed of other vetches	Other seeds	Dirt and chaff
Berry Seed Co., A. A. . . .	Clarinda, Iowa.	Purchase (bulk)	<i>Per cent</i> 21.60	<i>Per cent</i> 76.47	<i>Per cent</i> 1.76	<i>Per cent</i> 0.17
Willet Seed Co., N. L. . . .	849 Broad Street, Augusta, Ga.	-----do-----	67.26	28.52	^a 3.55	.67

^a Corn cockle, 2.90 per cent.

The Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture will continue to examine and report promptly as to the presence of adulterants and dodder in any sample of seed submitted for that purpose. According to the location of the sender, these samples may be submitted to the Seed-Testing Laboratory at Washington, D. C., or to any of the following laboratories maintained through the cooperation of this department: Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia, Mo.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oreg.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, California Department of Agriculture, Sacramento, Calif.

Approved:

HENRY C. WALLACE,
Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4, 1924.